



FORD N. FUCHIGAMI DIRECTOR

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 7, 2015 2:05 p.m. State Capitol, Room 305

S.B.1141, S.D. 1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

House Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **strongly supports** this Administration bill, which clarifies its authority to make and enforce administrative rules at the Kawaihapai Airfield, formerly known as Dillingham airfield. The U.S. government owns Kawaihapai Airfield, and leases it to the State of Hawaii to operate as one of the fifteen airports in the state's system. The present language in Section 261-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, needlessly affirms the supremacy of the United States government, which has led to the authority of the DOT to be challenged in court. It is of the highest public interest of the state, for the DOT to be able to manage the state's airports in a safe and responsible manner without the uncertainty that this language imposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.